



# Fraternal Order of Police Arizona Labor Council

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## **Executive Director** Jim Mann

## **Executive Committee**

**Tom Garrison**  
*Chairman*

**Thom Parker**  
*Vice-Chairman*  
*At-Large Employee Rep.*

**James Sink**  
*Arizona State F.O.P.*  
*Labor Committee Chairman*

**Frank Griego**  
*State Employee Rep.*

**Mark Bustamante**  
*County Employee Rep.*

**Heather Redden**  
*Large Municipal Employee*  
*Rep.*

**Justin Thornton**  
*Small Municipal Employee*  
*Rep.*

**Brandon Keefer**  
*AZ State F.O.P. Appointee*

June 27, 2011

## ***Report of the FOP Legislative Committee***

First, I'd like to thank the FOP Arizona Labor Council for allowing me to serve as the AZ FOP Legislative Chairman. The ALC Executive Committee has allowed me to work legislative issues for the FOP and has funded 100% of the cost in terms of pay, travel and other expenses.

Much of our work this session, revolved around actively opposing unfair and unconstitutional changes to our retirement benefits.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature – 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session 2011, adjourned on April 20, 2011, after 100 days in session. During the session, the FOP Legislative Committee reviewed 1350 bills. Of the 386 bills passed by the House and Senate, the governor signed 357 and vetoed 29.

It should be noted; the governor is in favor of bringing the legislature back in a special session to consider a 300 page "personnel reform" bill, which would be more accurately described as, "at will" employment for state employees. Presumably, fully certified sworn officers would be exempt, however, the governor intends to propose "at will employment" for all corrections officers, and civilian employees.

Over the past several elections, the state legislature has become ever more conservative. The rhetoric is now harsher, the accusations bolder and the solutions more simplistic – less government, lower taxes, fewer public employees and reduced benefits.

The FOP Legislative Committee; the Arizona FOP Executive Board; our FOP lobbyists, Don Isaacson and Norm Moore; along with our PR firm's owner David Leibowitz, played an important role in mitigating or eliminating the most harmful of the initial retirement proposals produced by the legislature.

Our FOP bill, SB1235, was negotiated with stakeholders during the off session. As a result of the negotiations, our bill was supported by employers including the Chief's Association and the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. The bill was sponsored by Senator Linda Gray. It was passed unanimously through the Senate and House.

SB1235 further improves law enforcement due process rights, including; lowering the suspension appeal threshold from 16 hours to 8 hours; requires employers to provide a list and summary of disciplinary action ordered against other officers of similar rank and experience who were accused of the same or similar violation within the previous two years; changes the population threshold for challenging a hearing officer; provides for confidentiality of statements made to CISM team members; applies whistleblower protections to employees of municipalities.

See the attached 2011 Legislative Recap for details of the bills passed.

Jim Mann, Chairman  
AZFOP Legislative Committee